TO:

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** 

CONTRA COSTA

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FROM:

Dennis M. Barry, AICP

Community Development Director 7 MAR - 1 PM 2: 25



**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** 

Contra Costa County

DATE:

February 27, 2007

CONDUCT INVENTORY OF LOCAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS SUBJECT:

SPECIFIC REQUEST(S) OR RECOMMENDATION(S) & BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- AUTHORIZE use of the Dougherty Valley Regional Enhancement Fund to pay initial annual membership fee of \$5,750 for the County to join ICLEI -Local Governments for Sustainability (formerly known as International Council of Environmental Initiatives).
- AUTHORIZE the Climate Change Working Group to conduct greenhouse gas 2. emissions inventory using a part-time intern funded by County Health Services Department - Hazardous Materials Division with the assistance of ICLEI.

## FISCAL IMPACT

ICLEI membership fee of \$5,750 would be paid from the Dougherty Valley Regional Enhancement Fund, which the Board has discretion to use for various purposes such as transit, transportation and economic development activities. Transportation and residential sectors together account for 61% of the greenhouse gas emissions in the Bay Area. Membership in ICLEI entitles the County to obtain software which the County will use to identify potential reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that could be achieved from implementing a wide range of measures related to transportation and development. Consequently, there is a potential direct benefit from the use of the Dougherty Valley Regional Enhancement Fund to cover the membership fee in ICLEI.

The Health Services Department - Hazardous Materials Division has agreed to provide funding to hire an intern to conduct the greenhouse gas emissions inventory (with the assistance of ICLEI staff and resources). The General Services Department (GSD) has agreed to provide workspace for the intern which will help maximize efficiency considering

GSD staff will have the majority of data the	intern will need.
CONTINUED ON ATTACHMENT: X YES	SIGNATURE Dennes 14. Barry
RECOMMENDATION OF COUNTY ADMINISTRAT APPROVE OTHER	OR RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE
SIGNATURE(S): Julie Gener	
ACTION OF BOARD ON 2/27/2007	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED / OTHER
·	
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS	I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE
LUNANIMOUS (ABSENT NOL)  AYES: NOES:  ABSENT: ABSTAIN:	AND CORRECT COPY OF AN ACTION TAKEN AND ENTERED ON THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON THE DATE SHOWN.
Contact: Deidra Dingman (925/335-1224) cc: County Administrator's Office Community Development Department (CDD)	JOHN CULLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND
(Settimatily Dottolopinatile = 1)	COLLETY A DESIRIUSTDATOD

General Services Department

Health Services Department - Hazardous Materials

## BACKGROUND/REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The County Board of Supervisors originally formed the Climate Change Working Group in May 2005. The County's Climate Change Working Group is comprised of the Agricultural Commissioner and the Directors of the Building Inspection Department, Community Development Department, General Services Department, Health Services Department and Public Works Department.

On November 15, 2005, the Board accepted the "Contra Costa County Climate Protection Report" dated November 2005 which lists measures that have been partially or fully implemented by the County that potentially reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This Report also contains a listing of measures/actions the County could consider implementing or expanding upon to reduce GHG emissions generated directly as a result of County operations (including County owned or maintained buildings, vehicles and right-of-way) or generated by sources within the private sector which potentially fall within the County's authority.

On November 14, 2006, the Board authorized the Climate Change Working Group to join ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability (formerly known as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign to build upon the County's climate protection efforts. ICLEI is an international membership association of local governments dedicated to addressing environmental problems through local actions. ICLEI works with local governments to help them reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and therefore their impact on global climate change.

Conducting a local greenhouse gas emissions inventory is the first milestone for local governments participating in the CCP Campaign. Conducting the emissions inventory will enable the County to quantify emissions from the overall community (external) and municipal operations (internal). This inventory would serve as a baseline for comparison purposes to see how local emissions change over time. By using local energy and waste data, the County can establish its baseline inventory and develop a forecast of anticipated future emissions. The baseline inventory can also be helpful when setting an emissions reduction target (second CCP Milestone), prioritizing future actions to reduce emissions, and measuring future progress (fifth CCP Milestone).

As a participant in ICLEI's CCP Campaign, the County will have access to information and resources to help identify the feasibility and effectiveness of the new and expanded measures identified in the County's Climate Protection Report dated November 2005. Furthermore, by conducting the emissions inventory utilizing ICLEI's framework allows the County to:

Utilize ICLEI's software and associated training to assist with quantifying emissions,

o Access ICLEI's technical assistance and their professional network of peers,

 Involve county departments who later become essential to creating and implementing the action plan,

Quantify emissions reductions from the actions the county has already implemented,

 Quantify potential emissions reductions of new or expanded measures prior to committing resources/staff.

 Document emissions reduction efforts in a manner that is comparable to others which may become important as the State moves forward with efforts to mandate reduction of greenhouse gases emissions.

ICLEI provides members with notification of relevant grant opportunities, which can be very valuable. New dedicated funding will be critical to pay for the development of a climate action plan (third CCP Milestone) and implement effective long-term emission reduction strategies (fourth CCP Milestone).

The County's Climate Protection Report contains most of the elements of a local climate action plan (third CCP Milestone). The climate action plan represents the local blueprint for climate protection, which should include the set of programs and policies the jurisdiction will implement in order to achieve its chosen emissions reduction targets. The climate action plan should include existing initiatives implemented, as well as potential new policies and programs that, when fully implemented, will help meet the chosen emissions reduction targets.

Background regarding the County's climate protection efforts, including the 2005 Climate Protection Report and previous Board Orders has been posted on the County's website (to go directly to that web page visit <a href="https://www.cccrecycle.org/climate">www.cccrecycle.org/climate</a>).